

Missouri State Archives

Finding Aid [998.170]

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

Federal Ration, Thrift, Tax, Stamp and Coupon Collection

Abstract: Used World War II (WWII) ration books (1942-1946) and thrift card books (1918) issued by the Federal Government.

Extent: Six books

Physical Description: Paper

Location: Missouri State Archives; Stacks

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Alternative Formats: TIF

Access Restrictions: None

Publication Restrictions: None

Preferred Citation: [item description], [date]; *Federal Ration, Thrift, Tax, Stamp and Coupon Collection*, Record Group 998.170; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

Acquisition Information: Gift; Letter of Intent; Accession #1989-0062; #2017-0182; #2018-0112; #2018-0113

Processing Information: Processing completed by EW on 05/24/2018. Updated by EW on 03/24/2021.

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

During times of economic and war-related hardships, the U.S. Government may issue ration stamps and savings stamps. This collection concerns World War I and World War II thrift and ration stamps and coupons.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Related Collections

None

Additional External Resources

World War II Ration Coupon Collection at Duke University Libraries, online at <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/wwiirationcoupons/>.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THRIFT CARDS, 1918

Arrangement: N/a

Scope and Content

The U.S. Treasury Department issued stamp books called United States Government Thrift Cards to civilians beginning in January 1918. Book owners were asked to purchase 16 25-cent thrift stamps and affix them to the inside of the book. When all 16 were collected, the owner could then take the book to his or her post office, bank, or other authorized agent and receive a War Savings Certificate Stamp worth \$5.00 in return. The War Savings Certificate Stamp would then be paid out on January 1, 1923. This results in a net profit of one dollar for the civilian, but in the meantime, the U.S. Government could use the money from the initial stamp sales toward the war effort.

This book has been digitized and is available on Manuscript DVD #1 in Reference.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
	10	2A	One used United States Government Thrift Card belonging to Mary McGhee of Elsberry, Lincoln County, MO. Two stamps attached.	1918

WORLD WAR II RATION BOOKS, 1942-1946

Arrangement: Numerical, thereunder chronological

Scope and Content

The U.S. Office of Price Administration began issuing war ration books to American civilians in May 1942. There were five books in all, each numbered and each designated for a specific purpose. Book One, for example, was for sugar. Additional rationing was done for tires, gasoline, automobile sales, metal and other commodities.

These books have been digitized and are available on Manuscript DVD #1 in Reference. The cover of Jordan's Book Four is also on the Z Drive.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
	10	2B	Used War Ration Book One-U.S Office of Price Administration #369582-97 belonging to Willard Cooper Kelso of Shelbyville. Four coupons still attached.	05/05/1942
	10	2C	Used War Ration Book One belonging to Gregory Clement Stockard of Jefferson City. Three coupons still attached.	07/18/1942
	10	2D	Used War Ration Book Three belonging to Emma K. Stockard of Jefferson City. Thirty-two coupons still attached.	n.d.
	10	2E	Used War Ration Book Three belonging to Audrey Jordan of New Bloomfield, MO. Multiple coupons still attached and loose.	n.d.
	10	2F	Used War Ration Book Four belonging to John J. Jordan of New Bloomfield, MO. Multiple coupons still attached and loose.	n.d.